

# AboutTown

Official Magazine of the City of Edina



Celebrating 125 years: 1888-2013

# AboutTown

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*About Town* is published quarterly by the City of Edina. The purpose of the magazine is to keep Edina residents informed of news, activities and programs that are important to them. We include articles of interest about our residents and community history as well.

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Cover photo courtesy of the Minnesota Historical Society.  
Bing Crosby, Wally Mund, Harry Cooper and Bob Hope play golf at Interlachen Country Club in 1945.

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# July 2013

## About Town Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>Key:</b>  3-7 p.m., Farmers Market, Centennial Lakes Park.	<b>1</b> 7 p.m., Flute Cocktail, Centennial Lakes Park.	<b>2</b> Noon, AlphaBits, Centennial Lakes Park.	<b>3</b> 7 p.m., Jim Berner, Centennial Lakes Park.	<b>4</b> <b>Independence Day.</b> <b>Most City offices closed.</b>  10 a.m., Parade, Edina City Hall to downtown Edina. 	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>7</b> 7 p.m., Zurchah Shrine Band, Centennial Lakes Park.	<b>8</b> 7 p.m., River City Jazz Orchestra, Centennial Lakes Park.	<b>9</b> Noon, Big Fun Show, Centennial Lakes Park.  7 p.m., Park Board, Edina City Hall. 7 p.m., Heritage Preservation Board, Edina City Hall.	<b>10</b> 7 p.m., Planning Commission, Edina City Hall.  7 p.m., Star of the North Band, Centennial Lakes Park.	<b>11</b> 7 p.m., Energy & Environment Commission, Edina City Hall. 	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>14</b> 7 p.m., Northern Winds Concert Band, Centennial Lakes Park.	<b>15</b> 7 p.m., Jazz on the Prairie, Centennial Lakes Park.	<b>16</b> 6:30 p.m., Community Health Committee, Edina City Hall.  7 p.m., City Council & HRA, Edina City Hall.	<b>17</b> 7 p.m., Medalist Concert Band, Centennial Lakes Park.	<b>18</b> Noon, Mister Jim, Centennial Lakes Park.  6 p.m., Transportation Commission, Edina City Hall. 	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>21</b> 7 p.m., First John Philip Sousa Memorial Band, Centennial Lakes Park.	<b>22</b> 7 p.m., Amy & Adams, Centennial Lakes Park.  7 p.m., School Board meeting, Edina Community Center.	<b>23</b> 7 p.m., Human Rights & Relations Commission, Edina City Hall.  7 p.m., The Sidewalk Café Duo, Centennial Lakes Park.	<b>24</b> 7 p.m., Planning Commission, Edina City Hall.  7 p.m., Prior Lake Windjammers, Centennial Lakes Park.	<b>25</b> Noon, Choo Choo Bob, Centennial Lakes Park.  4:30 p.m., Arts & Culture Commission, Edina City Hall. 	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>28</b> 7 p.m., Minneapolis Police Band, Centennial Lakes Park.	<b>29</b> 7 p.m., Dance, Centennial Lakes Park.	<b>30</b> Noon, Wonderful World of Woody, Centennial Lakes Park.	<b>31</b> 7 p.m., Somewhat Dixieland Band, Centennial Lakes Park.  8 p.m., "EdinaScapes" closes at Edina Art Center.			

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## About Town Calendar

# August 2013

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>Key:</b>  3-7 p.m., Farmers Market, Centennial Lakes Park.				1 Noon, Big Fun Show, Centennial Lakes Park.  4 p.m., Public Art Committee, Edina City Hall. 	2	3
4 7 p.m., Roseville Big Band, Centennial Lakes Park.	5 7 p.m., City Council & HRA, Edina City Hall.  7 p.m., Harmonic Relief, Centennial Lakes Park.	6 Noon, Brodini Comedy & Magic Show, Centennial Lakes Park.  6-8 p.m., EPD's Night to Unite party, Rosland Park.	7 7 p.m., Execs Big Band, Centennial Lakes Park.	8 9 a.m., "EdinaScapes" opens at Edina Historical Society.  5 p.m., Exhibit Opening, Great River Botanical Artists, Edina Art Center. 	9	10
11 7 p.m., First John Philip Sousa Memorial Band, Centennial Lakes Park.	12 7 p.m., Mandolin Orchestra, Centennial Lakes Park.	13 7 p.m., Park Board, Edina City Hall.  7 p.m., Heritage Preservation Board, Edina City Hall.	14 7 p.m., Planning Commission, Edina City Hall.  7 p.m., Bavarian Musikmeisters, Centennial Lakes Park.	15 Noon, The Bazillions, Centennial Lakes Park.  6 p.m., Transportation Commission, Edina City Hall. 	16	17
18 7 p.m., Medicine Show Band, Centennial Lakes Park.	19 7 p.m., Celebration Brass, Centennial Lakes Park.  7 p.m., School Board meeting, Edina Community Center.	20 7 p.m., City Council & HRA, Edina City Hall.  7 p.m., The Sidewalk Café Duo, Centennial Lakes Park.	21 7 p.m., Moonlight Serenaders, Centennial Lakes Park.	22 Noon, Jack Pearson, Centennial Lakes Park.  4:30 p.m., Arts & Culture Commission, Edina City Hall. 	23	24
25 7 p.m., Inver Hills Community Band, Centennial Lakes Park.	26 7 p.m., Dance, Centennial Lakes Park.	27 Noon, AlphaBits, Centennial Lakes Park.  7 p.m., Human Rights & Relations Commission, Edina City Hall.	28 7 p.m., Planning Commission, Edina City Hall.  7 p.m., Amy & Adams, Centennial Lakes Park.	29 Noon, Bob the Beachcomber, Centennial Lakes Park. 	30	31

## About Town Calendar

# September 2013

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2 <b>Labor Day. Most City offices closed.</b>	3 Edina Public School's first day of school for Grades 1-12.  7 p.m., City Council & HRA, Edina City Hall.	4 Edina Public School's first day of school for kindergarten, ECSE and ECCE.	5 Noon, Will Hale & The Tadpole Parade, Edinborough Park.  4 p.m., Public Art Committee, Edina City Hall. 	6	7
8 7 p.m., Roseville Big Band, Edinborough Park.	9	10 7 p.m., Park Board, Edina City Hall.  7 p.m., Heritage Preservation Board, Edina City Hall.	11 7 p.m., Planning Commission, Edina City Hall.	12 Noon, Wendy's Wiggle, Jiggle & Jam, Edinborough Park.  7 p.m., Energy & Environment Commission, Edina City Hall. 	13	14 10 a.m.-6 p.m., Fall into the Arts Festival, Centennial Lakes Park.
15 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Fall into the Arts Festival, Centennial Lakes Park.  7 p.m., Inver Hills Community Band, Edinborough Park.	16	17 6:30 p.m., Community Health Committee, Edina City Hall.  7 p.m., City Council & HRA, Edina City Hall.	18	19 Noon, Mary Hall Show for Pipsqueaks, Edinborough Park.  6 p.m., Transportation Commission, Edina City Hall. 	20	21
22 7 p.m., Honeywell Concert Band, Edinborough Park.	23	24 7 p.m., Human Rights & Relations Commission, Edina City Hall.  7 p.m., Twin Cities Show Chorus, Edinborough Park.	25 7 p.m., Planning Commission, Edina City Hall.	26 Noon, Mister Jim, Edinborough Park.  4 p.m., Arts & Culture Commission, Edina City Hall. 	27	28
29 7 p.m., First John Philip Sousa Memorial Band, Edinborough Park.	30					<b>Key:</b>  3-7 p.m., Farmers Market, Centennial Lakes Park.



# Summer Calendar Highlights

## Other Dates To Remember

- July 4** 10 p.m., Fireworks, Rosland Park.
- July 9** 7 p.m., The Sidewalk Café Duo, Centennial Lakes Park.
- July 11** Noon, Paul Spring Family Show, Centennial Lakes Park.
- July 16** Noon, Carol McCormick Storytelling, Centennial Lakes Park.
- July 16** 7 p.m., Bee Zee Girls, Centennial Lakes Park.
- July 23** Noon, Wiggle, Jiggle, Jam, Centennial Lakes Park.
- Aug. 8** Noon, Dakota Wild Animals, Centennial Lakes Park.
- Aug. 8** 7 p.m., Energy & Environment Commission, Edina City Hall.
- Aug. 13** Noon, Will Hale & The Tadpole Parade, Centennial Lakes Park.
- Aug. 13** 7 p.m., Vintage Piano, Centennial Lakes Park.
- Aug. 20** Noon, Ms. Catherine & Friends, Centennial Lakes Park.
- Sept. 12** 4 p.m., Edina Public Art Committee, Edina City Hall.

## Lighthouse Night

**What:** Started by the Edina Model Yacht Club, Lighthouse Night has become an annual event at Centennial Lakes Park. More than 100 Tiki Torches will burn behind Hughes Pavilion and the park’s special lighting will be highlighted. At 8 p.m., there will be open boating in the Central

Pond for model yachts. The First John Philip Sousa Memorial Band will perform in the amphitheater at 8:30 p.m. At dusk, the boats from the Model Yacht Club will light up the lake. Interior cockpit and cabin lights, searchlights and floodlights will shimmer off the water. The backdrop will be a floating and fully operational scaled model of a lighthouse.

**When:** Sunday, Aug. 11  
**Where:** Centennial Lakes Park, 7499 France Ave. S.  
**Info:** 952-833-9580

## Fall Into The Arts Festival

**What:** As summer draws to a close, people will start thinking about fall and winter – holiday gift-giving, back-to-school shopping, entertaining, indoor décor, rustic accessories and glittering jewelry. More than 225 talented artists from around the Midwest will display and sell their work at the eighth-annual Fall into the Arts Festival at Centennial Lakes Park. The arts festival will also feature favorite fall foods and entertainment, children’s activities and artist demonstrations. A portion of the proceeds will benefit the Edina Crime Prevention Fund.

**When:** 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 14 and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 15  
**Where:** Centennial Lakes Park, 7499 France Ave. S.  
**Info:** [www.FallintotheArtsFestival.com](http://www.FallintotheArtsFestival.com) or at [EdinaFallArts@netzero.net](mailto:EdinaFallArts@netzero.net).

# A Word From The Mayor

File Photo



Jim Van Valkenburg

After almost 50 years of serving his beloved Village of Edina (as he affectionately called it), former Mayor Jim Van Valkenburg passed away at home in May at age 87. When he died, “Jim Van” had meetings set with the Chair of the Edina Community Foundation and our Chief of Police for the following week. For Jim, staying engaged as he aged kept him relevant and he knew relevance is a very important

factor to personal wellbeing. Death was an interruption he didn’t have time for and living the engaged life went on for Jim right up to the moment life was over.

We will miss so much about him, including that touch of nobility in everything he did. Not nobility in the royal sense, but the nobility with which he handled himself in his dealings with others, the respect he gave to all people, his unshakeable ethics and his impeccable character. We will forever miss his steely handshake, his twinkling eyes and engaging smile that were precursors to pulling you into a good conversation.

Jim Van Valkenburg served as the quintessential example of the citizen public servant. For 20 years, as an elected official from 1960 to 1980, he went to City Hall to work on challenges affecting our community with only one goal – making Edina an even better place to live. He never lost sight of that vision and when his days as an elected official were finished, he left the Council and went to work as a volunteer for almost 30 years to continue to help his community. He was a charter Board Member of the Edina Community Foundation and 40-year leader of

the Edina Crime Prevention Fund. He served for 27 years on the Edina Art Center Board.

For me, as well as for other elected officials who served after him, Jim Van Valkenburg was always willing to provide guidance – but only if asked. The same was true with his great wisdom – imparted only when asked.

Jim Van taught us to embrace our history for its lessons and guidance, but understood that we must always be looking forward as there is no status quo for a town, that change is relentless and must be managed for our common benefit.

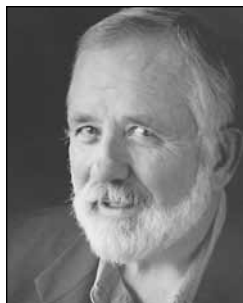
I am paraphrasing Armand Hammer when I say “there is no better purpose for a life than using it up in service of others” and that is exactly the way Jim used up his life.

Mr. Mayor, you have our endless gratitude for your lifetime of generously giving of yourself to Edina and for enriching all of our lives. Bon voyage, our dear friend and good public servant and may you find another place to improve in your afterlife journey.

James B. Hovland  
Mayor

*Memorials can be sent to the Van Valkenburg Fund for Children in care of the Edina Community Foundation, 5280 Grandview Square, Edina, MN 55436. The Foundation uses the money to help children in need and their families as well as assist with finding community support for youth who are financially challenged.*

# Plans OK'd For New Byerly's Store And Apartment Buildings On France



**By Joe Sullivan**  
**Contributing Writer**

Byerly's history can be traced back to 1922, when a young Russell T. Lund began his grocery career with a part-time summer job in the produce/dairy section of a small Hove's store on the corner of Lake Street and Hennepin Avenue in southwest Minneapolis. Within

three months, he became a full-time employee and a 10 percent partner in the cheese and cracker department.

An entrepreneur by nature, Lund also experimented with a pre-popped, packaged popcorn to sell in Hove's cracker department. In 1937, he moved to California and established a profitable new business he named the Red E Popt Popcorn Co.

Lund sold his popcorn company in 1939 and returned to Minneapolis to re-join Hove's. Using his profits from the popcorn business, he became a part owner with his former employers who were investing in a new, larger Hove's store built in 1942, a half block west on Lake Street. It was one of the first self-service grocery stores in the area and Lund was a partner and manager of its perishables department.

## **Hove's Builds A Second Supermarket In Edina**

Attracted, in part, by the rapid growth of the new, upscale homes being built in Edina's nearby Country Club district,

Hove's built its second self-service grocery store in 1962 on 50th Street, across from the Edina Theatre, which had opened in 1934. Self-service grocery stores of this type were beginning to be known as "supermarkets."



Courtesy of Minnesota Historical Society

**Russell T. Lund was a young man when he began working part-time at a small grocery store named Hove's at Lake Street and Hennepin Avenue in southwest Minneapolis. An entrepreneur from the very beginning, he began developing a packaged popped-corn product to sell in Hove's cracker and cheese department.**

The two stores were successful, but the leases on both stores expired in February 1964. The two grocery stores were renamed "Lunds" on the new leases when they were signed.

A new corporation, Lund Food Holdings, Inc., continued to grow under the guidance of founder Lund as CEO, with new Lunds stores opening on Penn Avenue in Richfield (1967) and in Minnetonka (1969).

## **Lund's Acquires Friendly Competitor Byerly's**

In 1997, Lund Food Holdings acquired local, friendly competitor Byerly's Inc., founded by Don Byerly in 1968 with an upscale supermarket in Golden



Valley. His second store was built in St. Paul and the present Byerly's on France Avenue in Edina was his third store, built in 1973.

The marriage of the two former competitors is now considered an industry success story with both supermarket chains maintaining separate, upscale identities under one corporate umbrella. Both brands have also successfully managed to sustain their service-oriented philosophies.

Lund Food Holdings currently owns and operates 11 Lunds and 11 Byerly's supermarkets in the Twin Cities, surrounding suburbs and St. Cloud.

"We want to offer our customers sensational shopping experiences each time they visit any one of our stores," said Russell T. Lund III (Tres), grandson of the founder. Tres Lund became president and CEO of Lund Food Holdings in 1991.

### **New Byerly's Store Will Eventually Replace Present Store**

Lund Food Holdings is working with Minneapolis developer Schafer Richardson to build a new supermarket to replace its current store at 7171 France Ave., and will develop three apartment buildings with a total of 246 units and additional retail space.

The new Byerly's store will be built closer to France Avenue with a large parking lot running along the south side of the store. Wide sidewalks and bike paths will link both the store and apartment buildings to the Edina



**Hove's second self-service store was built in 1962 in Edina on 50th Street near France Avenue.**

Promenade, the sculpture-lined greenway that runs from Centennial Lakes Park to the Galleria, a block north of the Byerly's property.

Real estate consultant Jim Vos of Cresa Advisors said the Edina development is the most ambitious Lunds has ever attempted.

"They had [a 1973] store on a very large site with a lot of excess land, and the question was, do we put in more strip retail or do we do something unique? The City encouraged us to do something different," Vos said.

Edina City Council members envision Lund's \$45-50 million development as a stimulus to what could ultimately become an area with new retail stores, doctors' offices, recreation and jobs within easy reach of people who walk or bike.

(continued on next page)



The new Byerly's store will be built closer to France (on the bottom of architects' drawing of the project). Two of the three apartment buildings that appear in Lund's development will have their ground floors devoted to retail stores and other commercial tenants. The remainder of the space will be used for 246 apartment units. Edina's Promenade, the recently completed greenway, is located to the east of the third apartment building.

"It's another step in the evolution of the whole Southdale district," said Mayor Jim Hovland. "More people are living here ... Eventually, we will see a lot more greenery, and over the next 20 or 30 years, it could ... become a little village to itself."

"The present Byerly's store will remain open until the new one opens in fall 2014," said Vos. The first apartment

building will also open then, with the other two buildings expected to be completed by summer 2015.

Background material and photographs for this article came from the *Star-Tribune*, the collections of Lund Food Holdings, Inc. and the Edina Historical Society.

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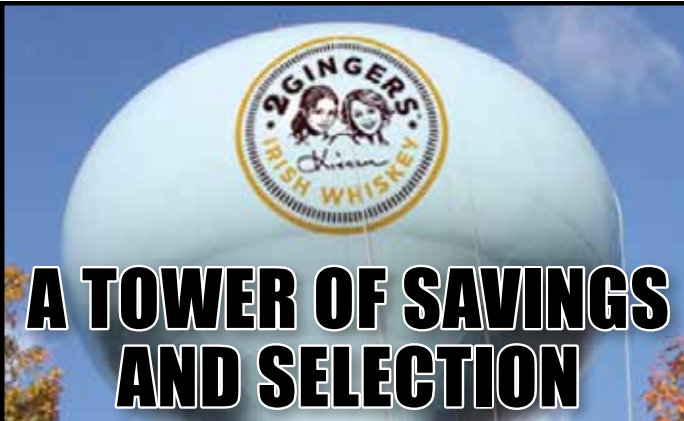


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# It's Not Only Neighborly ... It's The Law

## Construction Noise

**The Law:** Edina City Code 411.06, Subd. 2. Deliveries of equipment and material to the site, work crews on site and construction and demolition activity are prohibited except between the hours of 7 a.m. and 7 p.m. Monday through Friday and 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday.

**What It Means:** To better regulate residential redevelopment, the City Council in March approved a new regulatory ordinance to coordinate enforcement of residential “teardowns and rebuilds.” The ordinance sets many standards for demolition permit holders. Among them, demolition and construction can occur only between 7 a.m. and 7 p.m. weekdays and 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturdays. No work can occur on Sundays. The permit holder must repair any damage to public property, streets, sidewalks and adjacent properties. The site must be maintained in a neat and orderly condition.

For more information, contact the Community Development Department’s Planning Division, 952-826-0369.

## Bicycling

**The Law:** Minnesota State Statute 169.222, Subd. 1. Operation of Bicycle. Traffic laws apply. Every person operating a bicycle shall have all of the rights and duties applicable to the driver of any other vehicle.

**What It Means:** Like any other driver, bicyclists must follow all of the rules of the road. Specifically:

- Bicyclists may ride on all Minnesota roads, except where restricted.
- Bicyclists should ride on the road – not sidewalks – and must ride in the same direction as traffic.
- Bicyclists must obey all traffic control signs and signals, just as motorists.
- Motorists and bicyclists must yield the right-of-way to each other.
- Bicyclists must signal their turns and should ride in a predictable manner.
- Bicyclists must use a headlight and rear reflectors when it’s dark. To increase visibility, add a rear flashing light.
- Bicyclists should always wear helmets.

For more information, contact the Edina Police Department, 952-826-1610.

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# City Works To Ease Residential Redevelopment Concerns

Photo by Michael Braun



**Cindy Larson, the City's new Redevelopment Coordinator, strives to work closely with residents and contractors to resolve residential redevelopment concerns.**

**By Jordan Gilgenbach**

Last year was a record year for residential redevelopment in the City of Edina. Eighty-five new homes were built on lots where the previous home was removed – more than four times that of 2009. The City expects the number of “teardowns” and “rebuids” to be even higher in 2013.

Most neighborhood residents are not eager to hear the buzzing of saws and pounding of hammers, maneuver around construction vehicles and materials in the street or see a construction site year-round. The City has taken steps to make construction a little easier on residents.

“The City is 16 square miles and is not getting any bigger,” said City Manager Scott Neal. “Residential redevelopment is a difficult issue for the City. No one

wants to live next to a construction site. The City is working to find the balance between quality of life and free-market redevelopment.”

Earlier this year, the Edina City Council adopted an ordinance amending the City Code regarding demolition of single-family homes and subsequent construction. The ordinance limits the hours construction work can occur, implements a construction management plan for contractors and affects other aspects of construction. The ordinance raised the fee of demolition permits to fund a new position to coordinate enforcement of the local laws surrounding redevelopment.

“A weakness of the old system was that response to resident questions and concerns was somewhat uncoordinated,” Neal said. “The Redevelopment Coordinator will be a single point of contact at the City for both residents and contractors.”

Cindy Larson began as Redevelopment Coordinator in June, and is armed with experience to make her successful in the new position.

“Cindy is very well-rounded, hitting on all aspects of this new position,” said Cary Teague, Community Development Director. “She has an approachable personality, which will make her successful at working with residents and contractors. She also has the experience in construction management we were looking for in the ideal candidate.”

Larson has more than a decade in the construction industry, having worked as a Land Development

Manager at Lennar Corp and, most recently, as Director of Marketing and Business Development at Engelsma Construction. She holds a bachelor's degree in community development from St. Cloud State University.

"In my career, I've had experience coordinating all aspects of a construction site, from purchasing the land, working with city staff to get the project approved and working with contractors to make sure all codes and requirements were being met," Larson said.

Even though she has spent much of her career on the construction side, she also sees redevelopment from another perspective.

"In our old house, our family didn't function well in the way the house was built," she said, explaining that her old house had small rooms and tiny or no closets in the bedrooms. "We were faced with renovating, rebuilding or moving." They ultimately decided to sell their house.

In her position with the Community Development Department, Larson will serve as the City's liaison between the residents and contractors, striving to make the process less painful for all involved.

Larson hopes to be proactive about construction issues, so they are dealt with before they become a major neighborhood concern. To achieve this, she will hear concerns, field questions and work to resolve any problems; improve communications between builders and neighbors through various tactics so there is a better understanding between all parties; provide active enforcement of the construction management plan and

City Code; and find ways to balance quality of life while allowing redevelopment to flourish.

Her ultimate goal is to change perceptions on residential redevelopment. "It's not always rosy being next to a rebuild," she said. "I want to find good solutions for all involved by keeping all lines open."

For more information, or to express a concern about a construction site, contact Larson at 952-833-9521 or email [clarson@EdinaMN.gov](mailto:clarson@EdinaMN.gov).

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# New Leadership Takes Helm At Edina's Largest Shopping Destinations

By Emilie Kastner

Two of Edina's largest attractions have new managers – but neither leader is foreign to Edina, or to their respective positions.

Hailing from the nearby suburb of Brooklyn Park, Elizabeth Anderson spent time in Edina as a child, and visited the Galleria and other shopping destinations with her mother. As an adult, she found that the combination of commercial real estate and fashion was able to satiate life's demand for a challenge. In November, Anderson was hired as General Manager of the Galleria.

One year out of college, in 2007, Ben Martin had a short stint in Edina as Assistant Manager of Southdale Center. The Ohio native was just getting his feet wet in retail management, but what he didn't know then was that his new job would cast a shadow toward his future path. In March, Martin was offered the opportunity to return to Southdale Center as the new Mall Manager.

## **The Galleria: Elizabeth Anderson**

With an interest in teaching, Anderson attended the University of Wisconsin – Madison and studied English. She graduated with a master's degree in education and went on to teach English in Maple Grove for a few years. Life soon required a change of scenery, so Anderson moved to San Francisco, Calif., and took a job in commercial real estate with Equity Office Properties.

"The work was more fun and challenging than I thought it would be," she said.



Photo by Michael Braun

No stranger to Edina, Elizabeth Anderson visited the Galleria with her mother as a child. With 10 years of experience in commercial real estate, she was named General Manager in November 2012.

When she moved back to Minnesota in 2006, she began work for Hines Global REIT, Inc., a real estate investment trust. Hines purchased the Galleria for \$127 million Aug. 1, 2012, from previous property owner Warren Beck, owner of Gabbert & Beck, and retained the existing management staff. But in November, a management position became available and Anderson – who has 10 years of experience in commercial real estate – was selected to fill the role.

As General Manager of the 417,000-square-foot Galleria, she oversees nine full-time staff, which includes marketing, operations/maintenance, real estate management and accounting positions, and four part-time

staff who work in guest services. Gabbert & Beck owns the adjacent Westin hotel and condominiums, but did not sell that property to Hines.

"I like to do difficult work," said Anderson, now a resident of Minneapolis' Linden Hills Neighborhood. "I like to be challenged. There's no limit to how hard this can be." No two days are alike at the 40-year old mall, which was 97 percent leased last year. Creative problem-solving and collaborating with others are Anderson's strengths.

"Beth has strong business acumen, as well as a strong creative side and aesthetic sensibility," said Luis Serrat, Vice President – Retail at the Galleria, who has worked with Anderson since February. "She is genuinely committed to customer service and to a positive and consistent customer experience. No detail goes unnoticed; she is focused on delivering a seamless, positive and memorable experience for all consumers and tenants."

"The Galleria is simply the very best shopping center in the Twin Cities," she said. "Edina is a wonderful place to live and work, the City is pro-business and has been a good partner already, and we have the best customers here – they're highly educated, discerning customers who like quality."

"Beth is committed to the success of the Galleria," said Serrat. "Her extensive property management experience is complemented by her personal interest in fashion and retail."

As to what she hopes to improve, Anderson said "a little refresh" to the mall's image is in order. She's also using social media to her advantage to promote food, fashion and various events at the Galleria.

"She has a genuine interest in having those around her succeed," said Serrat. "She is focused and helps others maintain focus and prioritize effectively as well. She is consistent in upholding standards."

Her favorite part about her job is the chance to meet local merchants. "The shops and products here are connected to the community in an immediate way and it feels great to be a part of it," she said. Established retailers in the mall often hold "trunk shows" at the Galleria, which help to showcase different designers' work and introduce them to the market. "It's an exciting time right now to be here," she said.

#### **Southdale Center: Ben Martin**

When Martin began work at Southdale Center in March, he was thrilled about all of the changes since his last bout of employment there. "I have a good idea of how wonderful the improvements are," he said of the mall's recent facelift. "The transformation is breathtaking – and I'm excited for the opportunity to be a part of it."

Southdale Center, a 1.3 million-square-foot retail space which opened its doors in 1956, is the United States' oldest fully enclosed, climate-controlled mall. The latest renovation, which totaled \$20 million and was completed in November, includes the addition of a new food court

(continued on next page)





**A former Southdale Center Assistant Manager, Ben Martin returned to Edina and began work as Mall Manager in March.**

and children's play area. An official open house will be held Saturday, Sept. 28.

Martin has worked for Simon Property Group since 2006, following his graduation from Youngstown State University, Ohio, with a degree in business administration. He's also worked for Simon-owned malls in Duluth, Minn.; Oklahoma; and San Antonio, Texas – which was his most recently held position prior to his return to Edina.

"[My favorite part about working with Ben is] his ability to focus on ways to improve his property and gain consensus from his team towards those efforts," said Rebecca Scoggins, Simon Regional Vice President for the Southwest Region and Martin's former supervisor. The duo worked together for 18 months in San Antonio, as well as when he first began his career with Simon in 2006.

"Ben has a very calm and pragmatic demeanor," she said of Martin's leadership abilities. "He is a good listener and respects the views of his staff, his tenants and his shoppers."

"My favorite part," Martin said, "has been being able to interact with the members of the community. I get to experience the palpable sense of excitement shoppers, tenants and stakeholders feel for the positive changes we are making here and how it will impact the area."

"Ben was thrilled to be promoted close to his home and his fiancée's home," said Scoggins of his transition to the Southdale Center in Edina. "They will marry and begin their new lives together close to family and friends."

"I am thrilled to be here and to have had the opportunity to return to Edina," said Martin. "Edina is an exceptional place and I've been impressed with the commitment and dedication I've seen from the city government and other community members toward helping us succeed, and I want to do all I can to ensure we continue to be an integral member of the community."

The Galleria, 3510 Galleria, features locally owned shops and specialty boutiques, in addition to upscale chains. For more information about Anderson or the Galleria, call 952-925-4321. Southdale Center, 10 Southdale Center, features 120 specialty stores, fast-casual and sit-down dining options and a 16-screen AMC movie theater. For more information about Martin or the Southdale Center, call 952-925-7874.





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# Hockey Advocate Receives Mayor's Commendation For Individual Service

Photo by Jennifer Bennerotte



Receiving 2013 Mayor's Commendation Awards were, from left: Wendy and Paul Arneberg, Fire Chief Marty Scheerer, Eric Anderson, Alec Fischer and Mel Hoiseth. Mayor Jim Hovland is pictured in the center.

**By David Katz**  
**Contributing Writer**

In hockey, coaches prize utility players: athletes who excel in several different positions and can be counted on to play solid offense or defense, depending on need. Edina hockey currently boasts a strong utility player, of a sort, in the multitasking Eric "E.J." Anderson.

Over the last three years, Anderson has been a driving force behind a community campaign to renovate Braemar Arena, bringing the aging facility back on a level par

with others in the Twin Cities and commensurate with hockey's legacy and continued popularity in Edina.

"Braemar Arena has some of the best sheets of ice in Minnesota. Unfortunately, the amenities changed very little over the years," Anderson explained. "Many people within our community were driving to other communities to train and purchase their equipment." Anderson feels that the antiquated locker rooms tell the story in microcosm. "They were too small. Our 10-time – and now 11-time – state champions were riding a bus from the high school to Braemar Arena, just the same as the visiting teams. [It simply wasn't] a place they could call home."

Preliminary designs for an expansion, dubbed the "Hornets Nest," called for a state-of-the-art dryland training room, on-site retail spaces, and, of course, modern and spacious locker rooms. In 2011, Anderson spearheaded the creation of Drive for the Hive, a nonprofit aimed at raising private contributions to help offset the \$3.6 million price tag of this venture.

Construction could begin only after Drive for the Hive raised \$800,000, a goal Anderson said that hockey advocates hit (and surpassed) through a combination of "phone calls, emails and face-to-face meetings to alumni, community members, and corporate donors."

Milestone though it was, securing the funding marked, in hockey terminology, only the end of the second period. A true utility player, Anderson put his mark on

just about every stage and facet of the project: working tirelessly alongside the Parks & Recreation Department, Park Board and City Council as a member of the Hornets Nest Working Group, collaborating with the architects, and assisting the construction management crew until the completed Hornets Nest finally opened its doors in March.

Anderson, a commercial real estate expert with Minneapolis-based City Center Realty Partners, even volunteered his time and professional expertise in lease negotiation with new Braemar tenants General Sports and Velocity Hockey.

For his work on the Hornets Nest, Anderson was recently presented one of the City's top awards for volunteerism: the Mayor's Commendation for Individual Service.

At the City's Volunteer Recognition Reception in April, several other commendations were awarded. The Mayor's Service Club Commendation was presented to the 50th & France Business & Professional Association for community events such as Pumpkin Festival and the community tree-lighting ceremony. Fairview Southdale Hospital volunteer Mel Hoiseth was presented the Mayor's Outstanding Senior Commendation. Young filmmaker Alec Fischer received the Mayor's Youth Commendation, and Paul and Wendy Arneberg of the Jugheads Youth Juggling Company received the Mayor's Connecting With Kids Commendation. Fire Chief Marty Scheerer received the Mayor's Community Involvement Commendation, presented annually to a City employee

for volunteer service above and beyond his or her position with the City.

For more information on the Hornets Nest, visit [www.BraemarArena.com](http://www.BraemarArena.com) or call 952-833-9500. For more information on the Mayor's Commendations or Volunteer Recognition Reception, contact Susan Howl, 952-826-0403.

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# New Manager Named For Edinborough Park And Edina Aquatic Center

By Jordan Gilgenbach

Patty McGrath grew up surrounded by a family who did everything together. For her, a family who is active together stays together. This motto, paired with her professional experiences, makes her excited to be the new manager of Edinborough Park and the Edina Aquatic Center.

“We were a very athletic family,” McGrath said. “At our family functions, we were always saying, ‘let’s play kickball or cribbage.’ We were always organizing some sort of activity.”

In McGrath’s new role, everything from operations and maintenance to sales and programming at Edinborough Park and the Aquatic Center are all parts of her daily duties.

Edinborough Park, 7700 York Ave. S., features a junior-Olympic sized pool, a running track and fitness area, Adventure Peak indoor playground, multi-purpose room and play area and the Peak Café concessions stand. The park also has a 250-seat Greek-style amphitheater that holds free, family-friendly concerts and events.

The Edina Aquatic Center, 4300 W. 66th St., features a pirate-themed atmosphere with a zero-depth entry to its Olympic-sized pool, two diving boards, lap-swimming lanes, 207-foot body slide and 300-foot tube slide from a tower above the pool, a cable ride, children’s area with fountains and other water-in-motion amenities, a concessions stand and a dry playground. The newest attraction is “The Lost Wave” surf simulator.



Photo by Michael Braun

**Patty McGrath began her new position as General Manager of Edinborough Park and the Edina Aquatic Center March 18.**

“If I could write a job description that would fit me, this is it,” McGrath said. “Both of these facilities are fantastic and so unique, it’s really a treat for me to be involved as a leader at both.”

Before joining the City, McGrath worked for area YMCAs for more than 23 years, most recently as Executive Director of the St. Croix Valley and River Falls YMCAs. In this role, she headed the operations and direction of the two locations, including the budget, sales and programming.

“We are absolutely excited that Patty is going to be working with the City of Edina,” said Greg Waibel of the Greater Twin Cities YMCA. “We are so pleased with all the work she did with the Y, and wish her much success.”

McGrath worked to ensure high-quality programming, including aquatics, fitness, youth sports and development, family activities and a daycare program. During her tenure at the YMCA, McGrath developed high-performing teams, increased trust and productivity of staff, and grew membership and retention rates.

It's these skills and achievements that made McGrath the clear choice for General Manager. She succeeds Susan Faus in the position, who was recently promoted to Assistant Parks & Recreation Director.

"Patty came with many years of experience in progressive leadership with the Greater Twin Cities YMCA," said Parks & Recreation Director Ann Kattreh. "Her skill set with supervising staff, customer service and building operations made her a perfect fit for the Aquatic Center and Edinborough Park."

"I'm really looking forward to using the things I am good at, like project management," McGrath said. "It feels great to have found something that is such a great fit."

"I look forward to learning from her because she has so much experience. She will be great for staff development at both facilities. She is a great fit and will be an excellent asset to the City," said Amanda Holle, Assistant Manager of Edinborough Park and the Edina Aquatic Center.

Besides day-to-day operations, McGrath will focus on and expand what makes these two facilities great.

"[McGrath] inherited two very successful facilities," Kattreh said. "She will continue to provide excellent service while helping the facilities evolve and stay current with trends by adding events and amenities."

Staying current is a challenge McGrath said she is willing to take head-on.

"The facilities have been cared for and invested in over the years," McGrath said. "I am looking to continue that, while making sure they remain relevant."

To accomplish this, updates to equipment and activities will continue to be made at both facilities.

At Edinborough Park, that means updates to the pool and track area, and promoting the use of those amenities. For the Aquatic Center, McGrath will offer birthday party packages. Edinborough Park hosted more than 1,200 birthday parties in 2012. McGrath hopes to borrow from that success at the Aquatic Center. Additionally, private lessons on "The Lost Wave" will be offered.

Just like in her personal life, at these two facilities, one of McGrath's main focuses will be on families.

"When I think of families, they are super busy and structured," McGrath said. "[At Edinborough Park or the Aquatic Center], they can play together. We have all the equipment. They just show up, bond and have fun."

For more information, contact McGrath at 952-833-9542.



# Arena Scores A Goal With New Training Center

By Jordan Gilgenbach

With more than a dozen state and national championship banners hanging above the ice, Braemar Arena is rich with hockey history, tradition and pride. A local business wants to help train young Edina athletes in hopes of bringing home even more banners.

Velocity Hockey, a 10,500-square-foot dry-land training facility for skaters, is the newest addition to the Hornets Nest at Braemar Arena, 7501 Ikola Way. Edina is Velocity's second training center. Its flagship location is in Eden Prairie.

The facility focuses on a combination of strength training, conditioning and skill development. Owner Noel Rahn couldn't be happier with the new location.

"We'd been asked to expand in Eden Prairie, but we weren't ready," he said. "Edina was very attractive because they have a lot of great and very dedicated kids. This was also a great opportunity for us to grow the business."

Rahn said the 10-year lease with the City of Edina is a big commitment, but he is confident the new location will be beneficial to Velocity Hockey, Braemar Arena and, most importantly, area athletes.

"Having a state-of-the-art training facility in our arena is going to help take our program to the next level," said Laura Slominski, Head Coach of the Edina girls' hockey team. "It will allow us to be much more efficient with our

time by getting our on-ice training in and then being able to head upstairs to do an off-ice workout."

The partnership with Braemar is a win-win for Velocity.

"Braemar has been great [about selling] us as much ice time as we want," Rahn said.

According to Braemar Arena General Manager Susie Miller, this year, the Arena has rented \$138,000 worth of non-prime ice time from March through September 2013 – double annual projections. That comes as no surprise, given Velocity's busy summer schedule.

"This summer, we will see more than 1,000 athletes," Rahn said. Those athletes will range from young children to professional NHL players who will use the dry-land training.

Rahn knows firsthand the importance of hockey to the community. An Edina native, he grew up playing hockey, helping Edina bring home the 1988 state title. After graduating from high school, Rahn played hockey at the University of Wisconsin – Madison before transferring to St. Cloud State University. While still a student in St. Cloud, Rahn was drafted by the Quebec Nordiques in the 1989 NHL Entry Draft.

He later became a player agent with his brother-in-law's sports agency, where he recruited and identified talent at all skill levels and represented prospects who would eventually play in the NHL. Before founding Velocity in



Noel Rahn, owner of Velocity Hockey, opened a new dry-land training center at Edina's Braemar Arena in March 2013.

2006, Rahn was an NHL amateur scout for the Phoenix Coyotes and the Minnesota Wild.

However, it eventually came time for a career change. "When I was representing players, I was traveling 200 plus days a year," Rahn said. "Having a family, it was just something that no longer fit."

He became part owner of flexxCOACH, a software program that allows hockey coaches to build practice plans, design drills and create fitness plans. While he worked with other hockey professionals and NHL players to develop the software and plans, an opportunity was presented that would allow Rahn to bring his expertise straight to local players.

"Parents wanted hockey camps in the summer," Rahn said. "The first year, we got 500 to 600 kids." Renting ice during the summer in the "state of hockey" can be difficult, so Rahn found a location in Eden Prairie large enough to accommodate a rink of his own.

Velocity offers a unique mix of on-ice training and off-ice strength training, conditioning and skill development, something Rahn views as essential for hockey players.

"Off-ice training used to be something they did sometimes," he said. "It's actually very important for player development. As part of our training, we do an hour on the ice, then dry-land after that. Doing both the same day gives these kids a chance to have days off while improving their skills."

Miller, a hockey parent herself, couldn't agree more. "Parents are telling me they love that everything is right here," she said. "Off-ice training and strength training is so important. By working on skills and building strength, it really helps to protect players from injury."

Having trained thousands of players over the last seven years, Rahn is excited to be in Edina. "Edina is the top hockey association in the state," Rahn said. "There are a lot of great players here and it is very competitive. We are glad to be here to help train those players closer to home."

For more information on Velocity Hockey, visit [www.velocityhockeycenter.com](http://www.velocityhockeycenter.com).

# Southdale Center Named 2013 Heritage Award Winner

By Kaylin Martin

Since the 1970s, the Edina Heritage Preservation Board has discussed how to honor the nation's first fully enclosed, climate-controlled mall without putting any constraints on the commercial property.

"The Heritage Board has always appreciated the fact that Southdale was the first enclosed mall in the nation and a treasure in the community," said Senior Planner Joyce Repya, who also serves as staff liaison to the Heritage Preservation Board. "But how do you deal with a historic resource that needs to compete in the current marketplace?"

Without interfering with any future changes mall officials may want to make – which identifying the property as a Heritage Landmark would do – but still honor the historic significance, the Edina Heritage Preservation Board named Southdale Center the recipient of the 2013 Heritage Award.

"This is something concrete we can give them that they are very deserving of," said Bob Moore, Chair of the Edina Heritage Preservation Board. "It's a good way to compliment the history of Southdale now that it's gone through such a great transformation."

Southdale Center Manager Ben Martin accepted the award from Mayor James Hovland in May during Heritage Preservation Month.

"It is an honor to be included in the company of recent award winners," said Martin. "We appreciate and value our relationship with the City of Edina and its residents."



Photo by Kaylin Martin

**After undergoing a major renovation, Southdale Center was named this year's Heritage Award winner.**

Moore said Southdale Center was a strong candidate for the award after the mall's owner, Simon Properties, completed a nearly \$20 million renovation to bring back the mall's mid-century design.

"Storefronts are again filling up within the shopping center," he said, "and the vitality and historical significance of this Edina, and national, landmark continues to shine."

Developed by the Dayton Company and built for \$20 million, Southdale Center originally opened its 800,000 square-foot space in 1956. The mall then featured a grocery store, upscale apparel stores and a small zoo. Today, Southdale Center boasts 1.3 million square feet of space. As a part of the remodel, wood accents have been incorporated back into the mall and management was

thoughtful about retaining the original artwork that was still on the property prior to the renovation.

Moore, a lifetime Edina resident, remembers biking to Southdale when he was a child.

"Southdale was the center of the community when I was growing up. Half of my friends worked there," he said. "They (Southdale owner Simon Properties) have done a beautiful job bringing the mall back to life."

*Life* magazine featured the mall's grand opening on its October 1956 cover, saying Southdale was the "splashest shopping center in the U.S." Episodes of Bob Barker's "Truth or Consequences" game show were filmed at Southdale, which also showcased large fashion shows, choir performances and traveling circuses.

"It was more than just a shopping experience – it was recreational," said Repya. "People would just go there and hang out."

Repya said aside from Southdale being the first fully enclosed mall, it was unique in the way it was heated. She said eight locomotive engines originally heated the property with the steam being released in the pond behind the Point of France residential property, which caused the body of water to remain unfrozen throughout the winter. Steam, which later came from a heating system using well water, was released into the pond until 2009 when Southdale upgraded its heating and cooling systems to use natural gas.

The mall was also unique in the way deliveries were made. Through an underground tunnel system that's still used today, deliveries are made to the tenants without being visible from the streets and parking lot.

"It's not just the people on the Heritage Preservation Board who recognize the significance this mall has made on the community, but it's nationally known that Southdale has indeed changed the way people shop," said Moore.

The Heritage Preservation Award has been given each year since 2003 to a deserving local business, residence or neighborhood for achievements related to the preservation, rehabilitation, restoration and use of Edina's historic places.

To learn more about the Heritage Award, or about past recipients, visit [www.EdinaMN.gov](http://www.EdinaMN.gov).



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# Edina Public Schools Retirees Leave Mark On District, Community

**By Nicole Pribbenow**  
**Contributing Writer**

Edina Public Schools (EPS) continues to place a high value on its teachers and staff to educate all students to be responsible, lifelong learners. With the close of the 2012-2013 school year, the district said goodbye to a group of outstanding retirees – including teachers, support staff, custodians and bus drivers – who made significant contributions to the young people of EPS and helped build a strong foundation for tomorrow’s leaders.

More than 20 people will retire from EPS this year. Many of this year’s retirees have been with the district for more than a decade – some nearing three – and have seen a variety of changes both in EPS and school systems in general. Annually, the district interviews retirees to learn more about their time in EPS to honor and recognize the contributions they have made not only to the students, families and staff of EPS, but to the larger Edina community. The following is a sampling of three of those many conversations.

## **Lillian Ziff, Middle School Dean Of Students**

Lillian Ziff was with EPS for 26 years, the first 20 of which were as a school psychologist. She noted that she always made a point to listen to students about what they believe is important and aid in their endeavors to make sure they were initiated.

“Students want to do good for the community,” Ziff said. “When they have that sense of ownership over what they can do to make the world a better place, they are unstoppable.”

Ziff noted that she will most miss getting to know the new group of students at the beginning of the school year, and the excitement of the staff and students that comes with embarking on a new year.

## **Pam Hermanson, Elementary Art Teacher**

Not many elementary teachers can say they have worked with nearly 600 students in a school week, but this was a normal routine for Creek Valley art teacher Pam Hermanson.

Hermanson noted that in her 25 years at EPS, she worked in every school in the district except Highlands Elementary and Edina High School. One of her fondest memories was her involvement in the Elementary Art Teacher Program, which was the first in the district to receive projectors and document cameras for teaching purposes. With the document cameras, Hermanson was able to record a lesson plan prior to teaching it, allowing her hands to be free to help students with their art projects.

“I received great support from school administrators in making sure I had all the supplies needed to provide a valuable education to my students,” Hermanson said. “It was very important to me for students to see the opportunities that were ahead of them, but not to limit them to one thing, so I encouraged them to pursue what they were truly interested in.”

Recently, Hermanson and many of her EPS colleagues have used Artsonia, an online kids art museum where young artists and students display their art for others worldwide to view. This online source provided students



and teachers a new opportunity to showcase the artistic talents of students.

“What the kids produce is treasured not only by their parents, but grandparents and other relatives that live around the world. With Artsonia, family members can have their own personal gallery of the student’s work,” Hermanson said.

Hermanson noted that it is the opportunity to connect with students and families that she will miss most in retirement.

### **Jimmie Lee Dixon, Building Custodian**

Knowing all the students’ names at Concord Elementary was not required of the school’s custodian, Jimmie Lee Dixon, but he made it a priority of his work.

“It was important to me to know the students as I saw how special it made them feel,” Dixon said. “I’ve learned so much from the kids over the years and I hope they have learned just as much from me.”

Dixon worked for EPS for 20 years, starting as both a bus driver and custodian before shifting to full-time employment as a custodian. When he began with the district, Dixon said he was one of only two African-Americans employed. He said he was pleased to see a growing diversity of staff the last few years, especially for the sake of the students.

“It is good that the students have experiences with people who may not look like them,” Dixon said. “It is more like what they will experience out there in the real world.”



Submitted Photo

**Custodian Jimmie Lee Dixon poses with students from Concord Elementary.**

Dixon noted that he is most proud to have contributed to the positive and welcoming learning environment at Concord and feels good about the relationships with students, families and staff that he made over the years.

“Working for the school district has been more like a gift to me than a job,” Dixon said. “I started out wanting to be a singer or minister, but being given the opportunity to interact with the students and staff was truly a blessing.”

To read more about the EPS retirement class of 2013, visit [www.edina.k12.mn.us/retirement](http://www.edina.k12.mn.us/retirement).



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# City Pilots Community Garden

By Kaylin Martin

When it came time for Joel Stegner to move out of his Edina home of 22 years and into a townhouse on Cahill Road, he looked forward to finally being able to grow more than lettuce in his shade-filled backyard. However, as it turned out, the patio of Stegner's townhome got as little sun as his old backyard.

"A lot of established Edina neighborhoods have big trees, so just because you have a yard or patio doesn't mean you'll be able to grow all kinds of vegetables," said Stegner. "I tried everything, but lettuce was about the only vegetable I had success with."

While Stegner may not have been able to grow many vegetables in the backyard of either home, he did find success in a community garden in Corcoran, Minn., but it was more than 20 miles from Edina.

"Most of the people who had plots in the community garden lived out there," he said. "So I was the ambitious one. But it was hard [maintaining the garden when I was] living so far away."

After a couple years, Stegner wanted to find a community garden a little closer to home and was able to rent a plot in Chanhassen, Minn., but he still thought there should be one in his hometown. When Stegner heard about the community garden committee in Edina, he quickly joined.

After a couple months of planning and with the help of do.Town generating interest, the Yorktown Park Pilot Community Garden was in full swing and got the City



Submitted Photo

Flanked by Parks & Recreation staff Kristin Aarsvold, Ann Kattreh and Susan Faus, Master Gardener Larry Cipolla, City Manager Scott Neal and Mayor James Hovland cut the ribbon to the Community Garden at Yorktown Park.

Council's approval in early April. Despite the cold and snowy spring, all 55 plots were rented in less than a week.

"We had such a short timeframe to pull all of this together, so seeing the plots rent out so fast feels great," said Assistant Parks & Recreation Director Susan Faus. "It makes all the hard work worth it."

By mid-May, planting had begun and the expansion of the YMCA's parking lot was complete to supply the additional parking needed to accommodate heavier traffic to the park.



At the beginning of June, 40 people were on a waiting list for the garden. Thrilled with the enthusiasm about gardening, Recreation Supervisor Kristin Aarsvold said she's happy to see people in the community come together to make this possible.

Edina resident and Master Gardener Larry Cipolla is one of those people.

"For about five years, I've been politicking behind the scenes to get a community garden in Edina," said Cipolla. "Whether you've been gardening forever or are new to it, a community garden is great and you're going to learn a lot."

Aarsvold says Cipolla has been instrumental in educating not only Parks & Recreation staff, but also local gardeners on the basics of gardening. He's taught three classes on behalf of the City at the Southdale YMCA and will spend time in the Community Garden throughout the summer answering gardeners' questions.

"We have been very fortunate with Larry. He's been so willing to share his extensive knowledge on gardening," said Aarsvold. "It's made gardening a lot more accessible to people."

Nadia De La Rosa lives in an apartment near the Community Garden, when she was on her way to work one day and passed a flyer publicizing the Community Garden.

"I saw it and thought 'that is so cool,'" she said. "I don't have any experience, but I'm very excited to grow

something with my own hands. My 10-year-old daughter is just as excited. We're going to garden together." De La Rosa was one of the 25 to rent a garden plot within the first two days of registration.

With the overwhelming interest in the garden, Faus says they are looking into the possibility of expanding the garden in the coming years or building another community garden in Edina, but their first priority is to turn Yorktown Park into a community gathering space and see how the garden's pilot year goes.

"We're going to try to keep adding amenities at Yorktown Park for the gardeners," said Faus, who mentioned the possibility of adding benches and a shaded area. "What we want to provide is not only a great gardening experience, but also add that social component. To bring the community together, you have to have the right space."

Stegner echoes that sentiment.

"Gardening is a place where people come together from different backgrounds," he said. "All of a sudden you have a community gathering place, so rather than just sit at home and watch TV, they are outdoors, which is healthy. It just opens so many possibilities and that's why I'm most excited."

For more information on the Yorktown Park Pilot Community Garden, contact the Edina Parks & Recreation Department, 952-826-0367 or visit [www.EdinaParks.com](http://www.EdinaParks.com).



# Street Reconstruction Under Way In Edina

By Brady Skoglund

Street reconstruction is under way in several Edina neighborhoods.

Though it may be inconvenient for area residents, repairing and replacing the infrastructure is imperative in preventing further damage. To accomplish this, the Engineering Department prioritizes streets and utility work for the current year based on necessity for improvements.

For the past year, Chad Millner has served as the Assistant City Engineer and is an integral part of the process to determine which Edina neighborhoods will undergo reconstruction projects. Depending on the neighborhood, infrastructure to be repaired or replaced includes streets, storm sewers, sanitary sewers, water mains, fire hydrants and street lighting. In choosing these projects, the City also looks at the comprehensive plan for potential pedestrian improvements. This year, \$5-6 million in street and utility improvements will be made.

"A lot of these streets that we're doing now were built in the 1960s, so we're at 50 or 60 years of life," said Millner, explaining that streets typically have a 30-year life, but proper maintenance can extend that up to 60 years or more.

Projects slated for this summer include the Mendelssohn A, Normandale, Braemar Hills B, Gleason Circle and St. Patrick's Lane neighborhoods. In addition, three miles of streets in the Lake Edina neighborhood will be reconstructed.

"If we skip these areas now, it might be six, seven, eight years before we get back to them," he said. Millner says that all of these projects should be completed by November. Construction timelines vary, depending on the size of the project.

Construction Project Manager Aaron Kuznia has been involved in the projects from the start and one of his main responsibilities, he says, is community outreach.

Kuznia and Millner attend the public meetings for the neighborhoods undergoing construction to help residents understand the need for construction in their area.

One of the main concerns residents have is the day-to-day disruption of their routines, and Kuznia strives to answer any and all questions that residents in the affected neighborhoods might have.

"We're here to give them more of the real world explanation," he said.

Street projects in Edina are paid for with special assessments to properties in each neighborhood and with money from the City's Utility Fund. This year's projects are:

## **Mendelssohn A**

The Mendelssohn A neighborhood contains 68 properties, just over a mile of roads, 16,500 square yards of street pavement, nine fire hydrants and 25 sanitary manholes. Mendelssohn's streets were originally built in the 1960s and even with normal maintenance, they are in poor condition. Part of the Mendelssohn reconstruction will

involve recycling the existing pavement and constructing a new street. Portions of the curb and gutters will be replaced in addition to the pavements. No new sidewalks will be added and there will be no change to the current street lighting. Outdated fire hydrants are also scheduled to be replaced, and storm sewer drains are set to be repaired. There will be spot repairs of sanitary sewer trunk pipes and a sump pump drain pipe will be installed where it is feasible.

#### **Normandale**

The Normandale neighborhood contains nearly 1.5 miles of roads and more than 21,000 square feet of pavement. The streets in Normandale have poor pavement condition, although the base below the pavement is adequate. Proposed improvements include replacing the surface pavement and spot repairs of curbs and gutters. All of the fire hydrants and gate valves are set to be upgraded to current standards as well. Four previous water main and 11 water service breakpoints will also be examined and repaired.

Unique to other reconstruction projects this year, the Normandale neighborhood will undergo sewer line repairs. The Engineering Department's robotic sewer camera showed a large amount of cracks, roots and settlements in the sewer line which cause leaks and blockages. Because of this, it is the only project this year in which residents will be required to replace the sewer service lines that connect to their homes.

#### **Braemar Hills B, Gleason Circle, St. Patrick's Lane**

These adjacent neighborhoods with a combined 53 properties all have related issues that will be addressed

together because of their similar needs and close proximity. Like the other neighborhoods, these streets are 50 to 60 years old and need to be replaced. This will involve recycling old pavement and constructing a new street. No new sidewalks will be constructed, but the Braemar Hills B neighborhood will see upgraded street lighting. Sanitary sewer trunk pipe will be spot-repaired, and localized surface drainage and inlet capacity will be increased. Water main valves and fire hydrants will also be replaced.

#### **Lake Edina**

Lake Edina is the largest neighborhood undergoing improvements this year. There are 247 properties with more than three miles of roads. Like the other neighborhoods, the streets of Lake Edina are in poor condition and need improvement. The existing pavement will be recycled in order to construct a new street. The sound wall on the west side of Normandale Road will be pressure washed, painted and landscaped. Sanitary sewer trunk pipe will be spot-repaired, and localized surface drainage and inlet capacity will be increased. Water main valves and fire hydrants will also be replaced. Two storm water treatment manholes will be installed to treat storm water runoff prior to entering Lake Edina. Spot-repairs will be made to the curb and gutter as needed.

For more information regarding this year's street reconstruction projects, contact the City's Engineering Department at 952-826-0371 or visit [www.EdinaMN.gov/Engineering](http://www.EdinaMN.gov/Engineering).

# Construction To Improve Pedestrian, Bicyclist Crossings

By Kaylin Martin

Parts of France Avenue are getting a makeover this summer. Beginning this month, construction will take place along the corridor to enhance intersections and provide safer crossing for pedestrians and bicyclists.

“Right now, it’s not very safe for bicyclists or pedestrians to cross or travel along France Avenue,” said Wayne Houle, the City of Edina’s Director of Engineering. “When the project is finished, residents and visitors will have a safe, efficient and aesthetically pleasing route to navigate the greater Southdale area.”

The City originally received \$1.09 million of Federal Transportation Enhancement funding for a pedestrian bridge across France Avenue at 72nd Street, but Transportation Commission Chair Paul Nelson said the Commission and City Council decided the funding could go to better use by instead improving several crossings along France Avenue.

“It’s great, because this is what residents and business owners really wanted,” said Nelson of the approved change to the grant use. “A lot more people will benefit from the improvements to France Avenue now.”

Construction on the estimated \$4.09 million project will be implemented in two phases.

The first phase will include reconstructing intersections along France Avenue at West 66th, West 70th and West 76th streets. By removing the free right-turn islands, the

corners of the intersections will be expanded to increase space for pedestrians and decrease the length of the crossing. Americans with Disabilities

Act-compliant pedestrian accommodations, pedestrian-level lighting and planters will be installed. In addition, “median refuge islands” will be built. Median refuge islands are the spaces between northbound and southbound traffic where pedestrians or cyclists may need to wait.

Traffic signals will be improved with accessible pedestrian signals, countdown timers and vehicle and bike detectors.

To maximize pedestrian safety, the lanes on France Avenue will be narrowed from 13 and 14 feet wide to 11 and 12 feet wide. Nelson says this will add to the space needed to create a boulevard between the sidewalk and road as well as the refuge in the middle of the busy roadway.

“This will not affect the traffic flow on France Avenue,” he said. “It will draw attention to the fact that pedestrians are there.”

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“When the project is finished, residents and visitors will have a safe, efficient and aesthetically pleasing route to navigate the greater Southdale area.”

– Wayne Houle

Businesses along France Avenue also donated approximately \$1.1 million worth of land for the project.

“We’re so grateful that the businesses found value in the project and were able to donate additional easements,” said Houle. “All of them saw this as a benefit to not only their properties, but to the greater Southdale area. This meant we didn’t need to do \$1.1 million less work and sacrifice what this project is about – safety.”

Civil Engineer for WSB & Associates Chuck Rickart, whose company was hired by the City to assist with the project, said the project is not only geared toward developing a safer route for bicyclists and pedestrians, but to encourage greater use of bicycling and walking.

“It’s excellent for health reasons,” he said, “but also for capacity reasons. We’re trying to get more people using alternative modes of transportation, which helps with the heavy traffic flow.”

Nearly 30,000 vehicles travel along France Avenue every day and will see the first phase of construction completed in stages from July through October. Construction will begin in the area between Gallagher Drive and Hazelton Road, followed by the 70th Street intersection and the area between Hazelton Road and West 69th Street; the 66th Street intersection and the area between West 69th and West 66th Street; and lastly, the 76th Street intersection and the area between 76th Street and Gallagher Drive.

To avoid delays, drivers are encouraged to travel on York and Xerxes avenues whenever possible.

“We’re going to do our best to minimize disruptions,” said Houle, “but drivers on France Avenue should expect delays during the project.”

The second phase of the project will begin in the spring of 2014 and includes the addition of landscaping along the corridor. Trees, shrubs and flowers will be planted and decorative street lighting will be installed.

Nelson said he’s excited to see the project complete.

“Soon, people can safely travel France Avenue by foot, bike and car,” he said. “It will give people options where they didn’t feel like they had much of an option before. That’s a key part of it.”

For more information, contact the City’s Engineering Department at 952-826-0371 or visit [www.EdinaMN.gov/Engineering](http://www.EdinaMN.gov/Engineering).



# Braemar Golf Dome Plan Lands On The Green

By Brady Skoglund

As a golfer in Minnesota, there is nothing more frustrating than a short golf season. However, that's just what many golfers in the Land of 10,000 Lakes come to expect every year as Mother Nature inevitably brings us into the winter months, however long they may be.

For Edina golfers, though, there has been an option to curb golf-related cabin fever by using Braemar Golf Dome, 7420 Braemar Blvd., as a way to stay sharp and keep dust off their clubs. Unfortunately, a fire leveled the dome in February 2012. The City of Edina planned to rebuild the golf dome to open in early 2013, but negotiations with the insurance company delayed construction.

Initially, the settlement offer was \$900,000 but with the help of RJM Inc., the construction management firm working with the City, the settlement was increased to \$2.6 million. Golfers can breathe easy knowing that an agreement was reached and construction is under way. The City will have to invest about \$900,000 to complete the \$3.5 million project.

What was left of the old dome was demolished in May and everything is on track for the dome to reopen Nov. 1.

The new-and-improved dome will feature a fire suppression system to prevent another blaze and will be constructed of steel and concrete rather than wood, which was used in the previous dome. The dome will have other upgraded features, including thicker turf, a separate lobby that is not directly attached to the dome, and a



A 3D rendering of the new Braemar Golf Dome to be completed by Nov. 1.

fabric cover that sheds snow and ice and will add up to five years to the life of the cover, which is typically about 15 years.

Upgraded insulation will also be used in the construction of the dome to help bring heat upward toward the top driving deck as well as keep the top of the dome warm to help melt snow during the winter. The insulation might add significant energy savings.

The City also worked with the local watershed district on another upgrade to the site: a unique storm water drainage system that will place containers for storm water underneath the parking lot. This will allow storm water to be stored and released with lesser environmental impact.



The City is committed to reopening the golf dome as quickly as possible because of its importance to the community and Braemar's bottom line.

"The golf dome has served as an important component of our overall golf operations here," said City Manager Scott Neal. These operations include Braemar Golf Course and its driving range, Fred Richards Executive Golf Course and the golf dome.

Braemar Head Golf Pro Joe Greupner said operations were negatively impacted this year by the loss of the dome. "It took away our place to teach through the winter," he said.

Because of this, winter group lessons were canceled. Spring lessons, which are typically held at the dome during inclement weather, were held, but instructors struggled to stay on schedule when weather did not permit.

Todd Anderson, General Manager of Braemar Golf Course, said this was a tough winter to not have the dome. Though it varies from year to year depending on the length of the season, Finance Director John Wallin said the dome's average profit is between \$35,000 and \$40,000.

According to Gruepner, the dome closure and uncharacteristically long winter also effected the grill and pro shop. Also, fewer patron cards for the regular season have been sold.

"There was a more dramatic impact than we thought," Anderson said. "We didn't really realize the revenue impact."

Anderson said that people have been forced to hit balls at other facilities in nearby communities such as Golf Zone in Chanhassen. But Anderson is not worried about people not returning to the Braemar Golf Dome.

"I believe we have a superior product," said Anderson, "We have a pretty loyal following."

Neal agrees that building a new golf dome will be the ultimate pay-off for Edina golfers. "We're looking forward to rewarding the golfers who have been patiently waiting for this to happen," he said.

Anderson said that some people frequent the dome almost every day of the week in the winter and he believes that trend will continue, especially once the new facility opens.

"It's really going to be the best dome anywhere around for golf," said Greupner.

"I know the golfers are going to really appreciate it when it's done," said Neal.

For more information, visit [www.BraemarGolf.com](http://www.BraemarGolf.com) or call the Braemar Golf Course Pro Shop 952-903-5759.



## Edina Community Foundation: Leaving A Legacy



**By Dick Crockett**  
**Executive Director**

How would you like to be remembered? One of the basic choices we all make during our lives is the kind of legacy we wish to leave with our family, friends and community. For most of us, that will begin with a gift of love and time

invested in our children and grandchildren, leading to the satisfaction that comes from a growing family that carries our values forward in time.

As you think about your potential for leaving a broader legacy, we ask you to consider a planned or “deferred” gift that will ensure the long-term success of the Foundation and its efforts to strengthen our community. We will host a special dinner in November of this year to recognize and honor Charter Members of the Foundation’s Legacy Circle, who are those individuals who have committed to such a gift by Oct. 31.

A planned gift is usually achieved with assets not needed or intended to be used for your current living expenses, but considered as part of your estate planning. Designating the Foundation as the beneficiary of a life insurance policy can accomplish this, requiring only the completion of a Change of Beneficiary form.

Another simple alternative is naming the Edina Community Foundation as a beneficiary in your will. In your will, for example, this can be accomplished by a statement that says, “I give, devise and bequeath to the Edina Community Foundation, a Minnesota nonprofit corporation, [followed by a dollar amount or description of other personal or real property, a fraction or percentage of your estate, or the remainder of your estate after specific gifts to family and other beneficiaries].”

Other planned giving options include a gift of an IRA, 401(k) or other retirement plan, or a transfer of income-producing assets to a charitable remainder trust that names the Foundation as the remainder beneficiary after a period of income payments to the donor.

In addition to the valuable legacy that these gifts leave, they can also generate substantial charitable contribution deductions on your federal and state income or estate tax returns, depending on whether the gift is of current or estate assets. The amount of the deduction and other technical details of your planned gift should, of course, be discussed with your financial or estate planning professional.

When we are notified that your planned gift commitment has been finalized, we will put you on our guest list for the Legacy Circle Charter Member dinner, as well as acknowledge you (or your anonymous gift if you prefer) at our annual Donors Reception and on our website.

Planned gifts to the Foundation may be for any purpose consistent with our general mission to Strengthen Our Community, just as is the case with current gifts of cash or stocks. Unrestricted gifts support the Foundation's program leadership in the community and enable it to respond to future needs that may not be foreseen now. Designated gifts may be made to more than 60 designated funds currently maintained by the Foundation for the benefit of specific City departments or programs, nonprofit organizations, neighborhood associations, scholarship funds or other charitable activities in the community.


A prime example of a Legacy gift was provided by Marguerite "Peg" McNally, a long-time Edina resident until her death at age 93. She decided to include the Foundation in her estate plan, according to her financial advisor, because of her love for the Edina community. The result was an estate gift of almost \$100,000 that the Foundation used in part to fund the 2010 Promenade sculpture exhibition, which provided a special opportunity to recognize McNally's long-time interest in art. We are truly grateful for her strong community spirit and generous gift!

If you have raised your family in Edina, enjoyed business or career success as a resident of this community and enjoyed living in a safe and beautiful neighborhood, the Edina Community Foundation offers you a chance to "give back" to your community. Leaving a legacy through a planned gift to the Foundation will help ensure that your

family and others who succeed you will have the same pride in your community that you have enjoyed.

For more information about current or planned gifts to the Foundation or any of its programs, contact Crockett at 952-833-9573 or [edinacommunityfoundation@EdinaMN.gov](mailto:edinacommunityfoundation@EdinaMN.gov). Additional information about the Foundation and links to other articles about the Foundation may be found at its website, [www.edinacommunityfoundation.org](http://www.edinacommunityfoundation.org).


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# ‘EdinaScapes’ Honors City’s Quasquicentennial

By Jordan Gilgenbach

What comes to mind when you think of Edina’s history? The historic Edina Theatre sign? The old Clancy’s at 50th & France? The Edina Grist Mill? Southdale Center?

“EdinaScapes,” a new exhibit at the Edina Art Center will feature area artists’ depictions of Edina and its history. The show opened June 27, and the public is invited to see how artists capture Edina’s rich history through a myriad of mediums.

“The Art Center was thinking, ‘what can we do to celebrate the City’s 125th?’” said Michael Frey, General Manager of the Edina Art Center. The idea of an art exhibit came into fruition with help from the Edina Historical Society.

“This is a first-of-its-kind show for the Art Center,” Frey said. “The show has art featuring landscapes, cityscapes and everything else Edina. It’s a great way to show the history of Edina.”

“Seeing Edina through artists’ eyes and seeing the photos of the landscapes is interesting. EdinaScapes is another great way for residents to celebrate the City’s quasquicentennial,” said Marci Matson, Executive Director of the Edina Historical Society. “The displays I am most excited about are home movies and old pictures that people have taken over time, like the 4th of July parades 40 years ago, neighborhood parties or athletic events.”

Artwork entries, photos and home movies “feature anything from current Edina to historic Edina.”

Artwork and entries will be on display at the Edina Art Center, 4701 W. 64th St., through July 31 during normal hours. Once the show closes at the Art Center, it will move to the Edina History Museum, 4711 W. 70th St., and will be open Aug. 8 to Jan. 3, 2014, during normal museum hours, or by appointment.

“The partnership between the Art Center and the Historical Society is great,” Frey said. “The back-to-back shows give artists exposure for half the year! I always want to see the show again after it gets taken down. Now everyone has the opportunity to see it again and again.”

“For the quasquicentennial, the effort is for this to be a community-wide celebration,” Matson said. “When Michael approached us, it seemed like a great partnership that can involve the City as a whole. The Historical Society and the Art Center have never really worked together before, which makes this an even better partnership. We are excited to be included in the show.”

Frey said this show will not be annual, so catch it while you can.

“We’ll probably do this again in 25 years, for the City’s 150th,” he said. “I hope everyone can make it to either the Art Center or Historical Society to see some great works of art.”

For more information on EdinaScapes, contact the Edina Art Center at 952-903-5780.



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# Historic Home Tour Highlights Three Eras In Edina's History

By Marci Matson  
Contributing Writer

Travel through Edina history with the Edina Historical Society's Historic Home Tour on Sept. 15.

Each of the three homes selected for the tour reflects distinct eras in Edina's early history, from a stately 1886 pioneer home to a 1912 Morningside bungalow to a 1929 Country Club District Mediterranean-style house.

"While distinctly different in style and age, all three demonstrate how older homes can be tastefully remodeled while preserving a community's architectural heritage, as well as the character of individual neighborhoods," said tour chair Dianne Plunkett Latham.

The tour is part of the celebration of Edina's quasiquicentennial, marking 125 years since the City's founding in 1888. Tickets are \$15 in advance or \$20 the day of the tour, with proceeds benefiting the Edina Historical Society.

The homes are located a short walking distance apart, along a stretch of just over one mile that will take visitors through Edina's oldest neighborhoods. Parking is limited, and visitors are encouraged to park near one home and walk or bike to the other homes on the tour.

## **The Baird Home, 4400 W. 50th St.**

Listed on the National Register of Historic Places, the large brick home near 50th Street and Wooddale Avenue was built in 1886, just before Edina's incorporation in 1888. Previous owners Sarah and George Baird were



Photo by Brady Skoglund

Listed on the National Register of Historic Places, the Baird Home near 50th Street and Wooddale Avenue was built in 1886.

heavily involved in early township life, including the decision to form the independent Village of Edina.

Both belonged to the local Minnehaha Grange and Sarah Baird was the first woman elected to head the state farming organization in 1895, a position she held for 17 years.

Although five other families have owned the home, the Baird home has retained its original 1886 Eastlake style. Current owners Brad and Arlene Forrest were the first recipients of the Edina Heritage Award in 2003, recognizing the attention to detail and the historic integrity of the home when building an addition to the rear side.

Docents from the League of Women Voters of Edina, of which Arlene Forrest is a past president, will be dressed in white with their yellow suffragette ribbons.

The Baird House has not been on a public house tour in many decades and this tour provides an opportunity to have a rare glimpse of a 19th-century residence with such features as original woodwork, decorative tile, stained glass, a cistern and the foundation of the original windmill, which is used as a rock garden.

The two other homes on the tour represent the first large residential developments in Edina: the Morningside Neighborhood and the Country Club District.

#### **1912 Morningside Bungalow, 4006 44th St. W.**

On the 100th anniversary of the home, this quintessential vernacular bungalow with Arts and Crafts influence was nominated in May 2012 by the Edina Heritage Preservation Board for Edina Heritage Landmark status. Preserving the architecture of this unique home was important to homeowner Lee Anderson, a fourth generation Edina resident, and his husband, William Fehrenbach.

Remodeled by Authentic Construction Co., Inc., of St. Paul, the home was featured in the Parade of Homes Remodelers Showcase in 2007. During remodeling, the kitchen was enlarged at the rear, the front portico was added and the exterior was extensively refurbished. The Anderson-Fehrenbach home retains its original unpainted woodwork, built-in buffet, swinging pantry door and coal chute.

Stroll the grounds and take a closer look at the original garage and original decorative shed in the back yard. The piano room is furnished with Anderson family heirloom furniture, some of which reached Edina via covered wagon from Missouri in 1874.

The remodeled kitchen uses quarter-sawn oak cabinetry and an upholstered window seat as a nod to the past, along with a large working island, honed granite counters, oversized subway tile and a bright color scheme to acknowledge contemporary tastes.

Docents from the Morningside Woman's Club will be dressed in 1920s costumes as a tribute to the era during which many Morningside bungalows were constructed. Morningside, platted in 1905, became home to Edina's first suburbanites. Modest bungalows on large lots, near the streetcar line, appealed to Minneapolis workers who wanted to experience "country living" with an easy commute.

Although bungalows are found scattered throughout the Morningside Neighborhood, a particularly choice collection of bungalows is located on the north side of West 44th Street between France Avenue South and Grimes Avenue, across from the old streetcar line which spawned them.

#### **Country Club District Home, 4506 Arden Ave.**

This Mediterranean-style home is located in Edina's Country Club District, which is listed on the National Register of Historic Places, and was designated an Edina Heritage Landmark.

(continued on next page)



**This Mediterranean-style home is located in Edina's Country Club District.**

The Country Club District was platted in 1924 by the Thorpe Brothers Realty Company on land originally owned by the Bairds and cattleman Henry Brown. The development, intended for upper-class residents, was one of the first modern planned communities in Minnesota. The current homeowner, Joyce Mellom, is a member of Edina's Heritage Preservation Board and her objective was to preserve this 1929 home where she has resided since 1993.

Her gorgeous traditional decorating shows the home to best advantage. The home retains its original footprint with interior changes maximizing the use of space. The updates include windows, insulation, kitchen, bathrooms, roof/chimney, sewer/water pipes inside and outside, as well as stucco redash. In addition, the garage was moved

and the yard was landscaped. Central air was added, even with the home's current boiler/radiator heating system.

The basement has been remodeled to provide Mellom with a home office for her busy law practice. Because Mellom is an avid gardener, Edina Garden Council members are this home's volunteer docents. All flowers in the tour homes were grown by Edina Garden Council members. Take a moment to stroll the grounds and enjoy Mellom's beautiful garden.

The Thorpe Brothers offered eight choices of model homes originally for sale in the Country Club District. The most prevalent designs were the Colonial, Mediterranean and Tudor styles. The Country Club District is bounded by West 44th Street, Minnehaha Creek, West 50th Street and Arden Avenue. Take the time to stroll about this historic district and enjoy the community's architectural preservation efforts.

The Historic Home Tour is one of several Quasiquicentennial events that also include:

- History-themed July 4th Parade
- EdinaScapes juried art show (see page 42)
- Tales of a (Desperate) Book Club, Oct. 10 at Edina Library
- "History Happened Here" exhibit, showcasing historic photos in the community
- Founders Day celebration, Dec. 12 at Edina City Hall

For more information, call the Edina Historical Society, 612-928-4577 or visit [www.edinahistoricalsociety.org/125th](http://www.edinahistoricalsociety.org/125th).



# VEAP Seeks Donations To Provide School Supplies

All children, regardless of income, deserve to start the school year off with a backpack and grade-appropriate school supplies. However, for a growing number in our community, purchasing those items can cause significant financial hardship for families. That’s where Volunteers Enlisted to Assist People (VEAP) and you can help.

VEAP’s annual Back To School Program provides children in need with a backpack filled with basic supplies appropriate for their grade levels. The goal in 2013 is to collect 100,000 items to provide backpacks and supplies for 3,500 students from kindergarten to 12th grade.

Back To School collection dates are July 15 to Aug. 13 and donations can be delivered to 9731 James Ave. S. in Bloomington. Items will be accepted 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday, and Thursday until 7 p.m. School supplies can also be dropped off at Edina City Hall, 4801 W. 50th St. and Edina Fire Station No. 1, 6250 Tracy Ave. A list of additional public drop off sites can be found on the VEAP website at [www.veap.org](http://www.veap.org). Financial donations can be mailed to 9728 Irving Ave. S., Bloomington, MN 55431 or made online at [www.veap.org](http://www.veap.org). Please note that the donation is for the Back To School program.

Registration for the Back To School program will be held July 22 to Aug. 14. Children must be registered through VEAP to receive school supplies. To qualify, students must live in the communities of Edina, Bloomington, Richfield or a portion of south Minneapolis (south of

50th Street and west of Cedar Avenue) and living at 200 percent of federal poverty guidelines.

VEAP is a non-profit, human service organization with the mission of “Neighbors serving neighbors in need.” Today, VEAP operates the largest food pantry in the state and provides services to more than 7,000 individuals each month through its food pantry, children and youth services, social services and transportation programs with the help of more than 800 volunteers.

Donate School Supplies to VEAP	
Items Needed	Quantity Desired
<b>Backpacks</b>	<b>3,500</b>
<b>Spiral Notebooks</b> (wide-ruled)	<b>12,000</b>
<b>Spiral Notebooks</b> (college-ruled)	<b>6,800</b>
<b>Folders</b> (2 pocket)	<b>20,000</b>
<b>No. 2 Pencils</b> (8-12 count)	<b>4,500</b>
Crayons (24 count)	4,450
Colored Pencils (12 count)	2,325
Composition Notebooks	2,600
Dry Erase markers	3,500
Erasers (large, pink)	6,150
Glue Bottles	2,650
Glue Sticks	7,000
Highlighters	4,350
Markers (standard colors)	2,650
Pens (blue or black, 8-12 count)	5,000
Pencil Box/ Pouch	2,650
Red Pens	4,900
Rulers	2,325
Scissors	2,650
<i>*Bolded items are those most needed.</i>	



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## **The Edina 4th of July Parade**

**Thursday, July 4, 2013 10:00 a.m.**

**From City Hall to 50th & France**

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The Foundation thanks its 4th of July Parade Committee members for their great volunteer efforts:

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# Business Notes

## **Chuck & Don's Pet Food Outlet Opens In Yorkdale Shoppes**

Since 1990, Chuck Anderson and Don Tauer have served metro area pets and their families by way of Chuck & Don's Pet Food Outlet. Now Edina's furry friends can benefit from the outlet's newest location in their own backyard.

Chuck & Don's Pet Food Outlet recently opened a new Edina location in the Yorkdale Shoppes across from Cub Foods.

"This area is a great fit for Chuck & Don's and we believe our offerings and service will be welcomed by this pet-friendly community," said Mary Bayless, District Manager for Chuck & Don's.

Along with food for all kinds of pets, Chuck & Don's offers grooming products, training aids, toys and treats, as well as products for fish, birds and reptiles.

For more information, visit [www.chuckanddons.com](http://www.chuckanddons.com) or call 952-746-1809.

## **Marshall Appointed Director Of Connecting With Kids**

The Edina Community Foundation recently appointed Kris Marshall as the new director of Connecting With Kids, a youth asset-building program dedicated to helping connect families, organizations and other resources in Edina.

Marshall is a graduate of St. Olaf College and has been a resident of Edina for 20 years. She has an excellent track record of leadership and fundraising with Edina

Public Schools, including efforts at Edina High School and Creek Valley Elementary School. She also served as the Creek Valley Elementary Parents and Teachers Association President and as a member of the Edina Parent Leadership Council.

"I'm looking forward to maintaining and expanding the programs that Connecting With Kids offers," said Marshall.

These programs include Edina Reads, Edina Unplugged, Volunteer Fair and Breakfast with a Purpose.

Marshall will continue to help to shape the role of Connecting With Kids in the community and the strong relationships the organization has with the City of Edina and Edina Public Schools, as well as the Edina Chamber of Commerce.

For more information on Connecting With Kids visit [www.connectingwithkidsedina.org](http://www.connectingwithkidsedina.org) or call 952-688-8081.

– Compiled by Brady Skoglund



Submitted Photo

**New Connecting With Kids  
Director Kris Marshall.**





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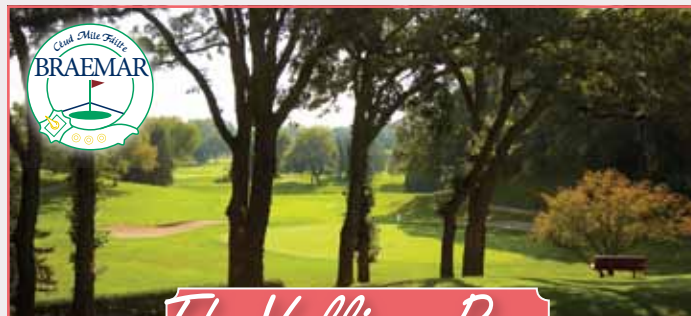
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# Planning Matters

## **New Coffee Shop To Open at Centennial Lakes**

Construction of a new Starbucks is under way at Centennial Lakes Plaza.

Mid-America Real Estate is building a Starbucks coffee shop with a drive-thru window and outdoor seating area within the parking lot of Centennial Lakes Plaza adjacent to France Avenue. Of the 12 coffee shops in the greater Southdale area, this will be the first with a traditional drive-thru.

There are other Starbucks locations in Edina at Grandview Heights, 50th & France, Galleria and inside Macy's at Southdale and Target.

## **New Byerly's, Apartments To Be Built**

Lund Food Holdings will build a new Byerly's grocery store on France Avenue.

Lund Food Holdings received approvals in June to build a new 47,119-square-foot grocery store in the northwest corner of the parking lot of the existing store, located at 7171 France Ave. When the new, slightly smaller store is finished, the current store will be razed. In addition to all the amenities and features Byerly's customers expect, the new store will feature indoor and outdoor café seating.

Also during the first phase of development, a new six-story, 109-unit apartment building with two levels of underground parking will be built in the southeast corner of the parking lot adjacent to the Edina Promenade.

After the existing store is razed, two more apartment buildings will be constructed with two levels of underground parking each. Each building will be six stories in height with a total of 125 units. This phase of

the project will also include more than 21,000 square feet of commercial space for smaller tenants.

## **City Condemns Property For Downtown Ramp Expansion**

To expand public parking in downtown Edina, the City's Housing & Redevelopment Authority has started the eminent domain process to acquire a property at 50th & France.

After many years in business, the owners of Hooten Cleaners & Launderers have retired and closed their business at 3944 W. 49 1/2 St. This site is located immediately adjacent to the northernmost municipal parking ramp that provides public parking for employees and customers in the area.

City staff had been in contact with the property owners for several months as they contemplated closing the business. Efforts to acquire the property through a negotiated sale were not successful.

The Housing & Redevelopment Authority, is using its condemnation authority to acquire the site while the building is without active businesses.

The City plans to use the property to expand the north map. The first floor of the expanded parking ramp may also include space for future municipal liquor operations. For more information, contact the City of Edina's Planning Division, 952-826-0369.

For more information, contact the City of Edina's Planning Division, 952-826-0369.



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# The Last Word



**By Scott Neal**  
**City Manager**

Water. Safe, abundant, potable water. Treating and distributing water to Edina's homes, businesses and industries is one of the most important tasks of city government. Without a dependable water supply, life in Edina would be much more difficult, if not impossible.

According to State law, the production, distribution and sale of water within the corporate limits of the City of Edina is a municipal monopoly. In the city government business, we refer to it as a municipal utility. Most cities in Minnesota operate municipal water utilities, although cities are starting to become parts of regional water utilities that may include multiple cities, townships and counties.

Water comes from two basic sources: from below ground or on the surface. Most of Edina's water comes from aquifers deep underground. We drill wells to get to the water, pump it to the surface, treat it to make it safe to drink and then pump it into the distribution system, which includes water towers, to get to our customers. Minneapolis draws its water from the surface, namely the Mississippi River, but the rest of the process is similar.

If the City was merely in the water sales business, our top objective would be to maximize profit. If the City was in the water sales business, I could tell you that we had a

pretty good year last year. 2012 sales were up 19 percent over 2011 sales. Year over year, profits were up more than \$1 million.

But the City is not in the water sales business. We manage a water utility, which is fundamentally different than managing a private sector business. Our goal is to manage the resource first and the costs second. We must ensure that our use of the resource is not only sustainable, but also necessary, which can put the City's elected and appointed officials into the uncomfortable position of deciding what is and is not "necessary" water use.

It's common to see the demand for water spike during the summer. Our water production levels typically triple in June, July and August compared to December, January and February. There's only one reason why: outdoor watering. Our love of a green landscape is pushing the production and distribution capacities of our water utility.

If we were in the water sales business, we'd simply build more and sell more. But, as a water utility, that's not what we're going to do. In order to sustain our supply of water into the future, we are going to price our product in order to discourage its consumption over certain basic thresholds. We are going to talk about the nobility and necessity of water conservation. We are going to encourage and incent landscape practices that thrive with less water. We will do all of this because we are not in the water sales business, but because we care that future generations of Edinans can enjoy safe, abundant, potable water.

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